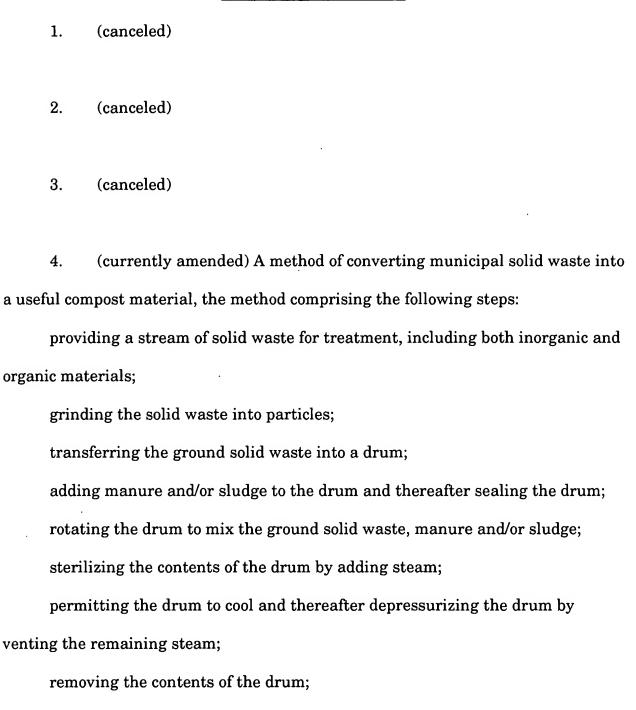
CLAIM AMENDMENTS



wherein the bioconversion of whole waste streams can be completed all the steps of the method are completed within a 24 hour period; and wherein the method converts both organic and inorganic materials into useful compost material.

wherein prior to grinding the solid waste it is scanned with a Geiger counter
to detect the presence or absence of radioactive materials and wherein any detected
radioactive materials are removed from the solid waste.

- 5. (canceled)
- 6. (canceled)
- 7. (canceled)
- 8. (previously presented) A method of converting municipal solid waste into a useful compost material, the method comprising the following steps:

providing a stream of solid waste for treatment;

grinding the solid waste into particles;

transferring the ground solid waste into a drum;

adding manure and/or sludge to the drum and thereafter sealing the drum; rotating the drum to mix the ground solid waste, manure and/or sludge;

sterilizing the contents of the drum by adding steam;

permitting the drum to cool and thereafter depressurizing the drum by venting the remaining steam;

removing the contents of the drum; and

wherein prior to grinding the solid waste it is scanned with a Geiger counter to detect the presence or absence of radioactive materials and wherein any detected radioactive materials are removed from the solid waste.